

**Draft
Environmental Impact Report/
Environmental Assessment**

**State Route 138 Widening Project
From Avenue T to State Route 18
Junction Through
the Communities of Littlerock,
Pearblossom, Llano and the City of
Palmdale**

SCH Number: 1998091007



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6.0 Consultation and Coordination

6.1 Early Scoping Process

The CEQA requires a formal scoping process when an Environmental Impact Report is prepared. A 30-day scoping period was allocated to ensure that all concerns were presented to the department for consideration and inclusion in the environmental studies. At the start of the project there was a scoping meeting on August 26, 1998 to address any initial concerns prior to design and development of the project from concerned residents and business owners.

Scoping letters were mailed on July 28, 1998 to the appropriate local, state, and federal agencies, elected officials and over 3000 local homeowners and residents notifying them of the formal initiation of studies. A Notice of Intent was published in the Federal Register on August 27, 1998 and the Notice of Preparation was dated August 20, 1998 and sent by certified mail to the responsible agencies. The public notices (Appendix C) were published in the following newspapers.

Los Angeles Times-San Fernando Edition on August 12, 1998 and August 19, 1998

Antelope Valley Press on August 12, 1998 and August 19, 1998

La Voz on August 14, 1998

Acton Agua Dulce Weekly on August 17, 1998 and August 24, 1998

The comments of potentially affected agencies, businesses, and the public on pertinent social, economic, and environmental issues were required by September 30, 1998. The majority of the comments dealt with safety issues, primarily speeding violations and the difficulty involved in making turns or passing safely. There were requests for consideration of trail crossings for hikers and equestrians. Littlerock residents expressed some opposition to the project.

6.2 Consultation

Consultation and coordination by Caltrans Districts 7 with the following agencies and jurisdictions has occurred throughout the project.

- | | |
|---|--|
| ▪ US Fish & Wildlife Service | ▪ Los Angeles County Department of Power and Water |
| ▪ Natural Resources Conservation Service (Lancaster Office) | ▪ State Assemblyman George Runner |
| ▪ California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) | ▪ CHP Southern Division, Victorville, Antelope Valley Area, San Bernardino |
| ▪ Littlerock Town Council | ▪ Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Lancaster) |
| ▪ City of Lancaster | ▪ Keppel Union School District |
| ▪ Llano Community Association | ▪ Pearblossom Chamber of Commerce |
| ▪ City of Palmdale | ▪ Littlerock Chamber of Commerce |
| ▪ Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation | ▪ Route 138 Safety Task Force |
| ▪ California Department of Water Resources | |

6.3 Community and Agency Meetings

During project development there have been meetings with various groups to ensure that all possible concerns have been addressed. As mentioned in Section 2.7 there was a Highway 138 Safety Corridor Task Force formed in order to implement changes while design and development were in the works. The meetings for the Highway 138 Safety Corridor Task Force were held on:

- September 25, 1998
- November 19, 1998
- January 28, 1999
- March 11, 1999
- June 10, 1999
- September 8, 1999
- December 15, 1999
- March 15, 2000

Besides meetings of the 138 corridor task force there was a town council meeting in Littlerock on March 9, 2000 and a Cultural meeting concerning the archaeological site in Llano on July 15, 1999. A major concern during project development and design has been the impact of Caltrans right-of-way on Alpine Elementary school in Littlerock and the impacts on the faculty and visitor parking and the impact to the bus loading/unloading zone.

The meetings with Keppel Union School District were held on:

- August 10, 1999
- November 5, 1999
- December 3, 1999
- January 7, 2000
- February 4, 2000

Caltrans has also conducted workshops with the following organizations:

- Pearblossom Chamber of Commerce on June 1, 2000
- Littlerock Town Council on June 22, 2000
- Littlerock Chamber of Commerce on July 19, 2000

6.4 Circulation of Draft Environmental Document

This document will be circulated to the agencies and individuals shown on the mailing list in Appendix D. Notices of the document's availability will be sent to all property owners (approximately 2000) in the corridor. Copies of the document will be available at the local libraries. A Public Hearing will be held during the circulation of this Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment (EIR/EA). Also the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Assessment will be available at the following site:

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/dist07/route138/index.htm>